

JOHN VAN WAGONER SR., AND MARGARET ANN FAUSETT VAN WAGONER



John Van Wagoner, Sr., was born September 13, 1849, at Pottawattomie County, Iowa, a son of John Halmah and Clarissa Tappen Van Wagoner. He married Margaret Ann Fausett March 13, 1872. She was born February 26, 1854 at Provo, a daughter of John and Mary Shelton Fausett. John died December 20, 1928 at Heber, and Margaret Ann died January 20, 1923. Both are buried in Midway.

John came across the plains with his parents in 1852 at the age of three, and settled with them in Provo.

On July 17, 1863, he was baptized by William Wood, and confirmed a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints by his brother, David.

In 1864, he came with his parents to Wasatch Valley and settled in Midway at the lower settlement.

In 1866 he went to Montana where he worked for some time, and where he suffered greatly from home-sickness. He was a very young boy at this time and was with men who were not of the Mormon faith. After his return he went to Salt Lake City and with ox team hauled rock for the temple.

In 1868, he went with eight others from the county by ox team to meet the last immigrants that crossed the plains with ox team. They waited on the Platte River for seven weeks having provisions and teams for them. Six died this trip and were buried in the river bed. They were just wrapped in quilts and buried in a trench.

On his return he went to work on the Western Railroad at Humboldt.

In 1872, he married Margaret Ann Fausett by his brother Bishop David Van Wagener and some years later they went to the Endowment House. Fourteen children were born to them.

He worked in the mountains logging, and had the contract for the first hundred cord of wood used at the Ontario Mine in Park City.

He and his brother, William, burned lime, and for a number of years made brick together with his sons. He made brick used in his own home and in many other buildings in the county. He also laid brick and did plastering. He bought a lot from Mark Smith for \$2.50 and built his own home. He and his son made brick in Heber for two years. Labor was cheap and he labored 65 days on the Second Ward meeting house at Midway for \$1.00 a day, 10 hours a day.

He was school trustee for Midway School for sixteen years. For sixteen years he was a ward teacher. He also taught a Sunday School class. He was very honest and taught his children to be honest. He was also charitable, his only regret being that he wasn't able to help more where people needed help. He had a great amount of faith and many were healed through the priesthood he held.

They reared thirteen children to manhood and womanhood. All were married but one daughter, Grace. When the first epidemic of "flue" came, they lost three children within five months, there being just three weeks between Ann Eliza and Joseph. Grace was the first to die. She died at her sister's home, Luella Clyde in Heber. At that time she was working at the bank of Heber City.

March 13, 1922, they celebrated their golden wedding day in the Midway meeting house, having a big dinner in the basement. Most of the children and grandchildren were there and many, many relatives and friends. At night there was a dance in their honor at the amusement hall.

One year later Margaret Ann passed away, with heart failure.

John suffered a very serious sickness about four years prior to his death.

He appreciated the love and kindness of his family through his long illness. He spent much of the time at the home of his daughter, Luella Clyde in Heber. He died there. Funeral services were held in the Midway 1st Ward. He was buried in the Midway Cemetery.

Throughout her life Margaret was a faithful Latter-day Saint and had a loving, charitable heart, never turning anyone away who was hungry.

She joined the Relief Society when still very young, and was active for many, many

years. She served as a teacher in the Relief Society for a long time. She helped care for the poor, and was always on hand to do her part at the time of death.

She was very ambitious, and took pride in her gardens, her home and her family.

When sickness was in the home she was very skillful with herbs, and had faith in the priesthood which her husband bore. She was always a loving, devoted wife and mother, kind and considerate of all. Her life was spent in sacrifice to help others.

Children of John and Margaret Ann Fausett Van Wagoner:

Margaret, died
John Jr., married Margaret Young
Mary Ann, married Edward Culmer
Ann Eliza, married Benjamin Hair
William L., married Charlotte Sharp
Clarissa, married James T. Pyper
Sarah, married Hyrum S. Winterton
Joseph Monroe, married Edith Bronson
David Francis, married Celestia Pack
Nancy Jane, married Fredrick O. Haueter
Luella, married Earl Clyde and Later
Canute P. Brienholt
Grace, died
Dean Delos, married Ella Johnson, and later
Alta Johnson
Albert, married Anna Turley, and later
Ora Giles.